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TO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

INFO AMEMBASSY PANAMA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 114736

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TECH, TGEN, BL, MILI

SUBJECT: IAGS/BOLIVIA MANNING LEVELS

REF: A. LA PAZ 1743; B. STATE 091044

PANAMA FOR IAGS

1. DEFENSE MAPPING AGENCY (DMA) FIRMLY BELIEVES THAT
PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS, OF WHICH SUPPORT FOR GOB MAPPING IS
ONLY A PART, COULD NOT BE MET UNDER EMBASSY PROPOSED PHASE-
DOWN TO ONE LIAISON OFFICER WITHIN FOUR YEARS. MAJOR IAGS
EMPHASIS DURING FY 76-77 WILL BE ON PROJECTS INVOLVING
THE SPECIAL MISSION TRACKING PROGRAM (SMTP) STATION. BOTH
THE SMTP ITSELF AND TRACKING OF THE GEOS C GEODETIC
SATELLITE UTILIZE THAT STATION. THE FUNDAMENTAL OBJECTIVES
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OF BOTH PROGRAMS ARE OF STRATEGIC SIGNIFICANCE TO THE

U.S., AND ALTHOUGH IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO RELOCATE THE LA PAZ STATION TO ANOTHER GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION, THE NEGOTIATION OF NEW FOREIGN CLEARANCES WOULD HAVE TO BE COMPLETED IN ADVANCE OF SUCH A MOVE. ADDITIONALLY, RELOCATION OF THE LA PAZ TRACKING STATION, WHICH IS ONE OF A WORLDWIDE NETWORK OF SIMILAR STATIONS, COULD IMPACT ON OTHER STATION LOCATIONS AND TEAMS, THUS AMPLIFYING FOREIGN CLEARANCE AND MANNING PROBLEMS.

2. IN EXCHANGE FOR GOB AGREEMENT TO PERMIT ESTABLISHMENT OF AN SMTP STATION IN BOLIVIA, EMBASSY AND IAGS WERE AUTHORIZED DURING 1972 NEGOTIATIONS TO OFFER GOB THE USE OF SMTP/GEOS C PORTABLE DOPPLER TRACKING EQUIPMENT TO ESTABLISH GEODETIC POSITIONS BETWEEN PERIODS WHEN THE STATION WOULD BE USED FOR SMTP TRACKING. UNDER THIS AGREEMENT, GOB MAPPING OFFICIALS AND IAGS PLANNED TO ESTABLISH AT LEAST 40 NEW GEODETIC STATIONS. THIRTY-THREE HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED, BUT THE REMAINDER CANNOT BE COMPLETED PRIOR TO MID-FY 77 DUE TO THE SMTP AND GEOS C WORKLOAD IN THE INTERVAL. DMA ANTICIPATES THAT EVEN MORE GROUND STATIONS WILL BE NECESSARY TO SUPPORT MAPPING AS A RESULT OF THE AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY ACQUIRED UNDER THE WORKING ARRANGEMENT. THESE FIELD SURVEYS WILL BE COMPLETED BETWEEN FY 78 AND FY 80. GOB PERSONNEL WILL PERFORM THOSE SURVEYS USING U.S. PORTABLE DOPPLER POSITIONING EQUIPMENT UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF U.S. TECHNICIANS.

3. DMA/IAGS MANNING LEVEL GUIDANCE IS BASED ON BEST PROFESSIONAL ANALYSIS OF WHAT IS REQUIRED TO COMPLETE THE ABOVE PROJECTS AND OTHER PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS. THOSE REQUIREMENTS BREAK DOWN AS FOLLOWS:

A. SMTP REQUIRES A TWO-MAN TEAM ON SITE FROM JUNE THROUGH AUGUST AND MID-OCTOBER THROUGH MID-JANUARY EVERY YEAR UNTIL AT LEAST MID-JANUARY 1977. DEFINITE CONFIRMATION OF TERMINATION OF SMTP REQUIREMENT WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE UNTIL MAY 1976. DURING PERIODS OF SMTP INACTIVITY, THE TWO TECHNICIANS WILL ASSIST IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE REMAINING GEODETIC STATIONS DESCRIBED IN PARA. 2.

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B. THE SMTP STATION MUST ALSO BE OPERATED CONTINUOUSLY TO TRACK THE GEOS C GEODETIC SATELLITE, WHICH IS A NEW PROGRAM COMMENCING MAY 1975 AND RUNNING THROUGH JUNE 1976. WHEN BOTH PROGRAMS ARE RUNNING, THE HEAVY WORKLOAD OF TRACKING RESPONSIBILITIES REQUIRES THREE MEN ON STATION. DMA BELIEVES THE THIRD POSITION CAN BE FILLED ADEQUATELY BY THE PROJECT ENGINEER, IN ADDITION TO HIS REGULAR DUTIES, AND CONSEQUENTLY DOES NOT REQUIRE ASSIGNMENT OF AN ADDITION-

AL TECHNICIAN.

C. SUPERVISION OF THE FIELD SURVEYS TO BE COMPLETED DURING FY 78-80 BY GOB PERSONNEL USING U.S. PORTABLE DOPPLER EQUIPMENT WILL, IN DMA'S ESTIMATION, CONTINUE TO REQUIRE THREE RESIDENT-BASED U.S. PERSONNEL. DMA ANTICIPATES THAT THE TECHNICIANS OPERATING THE SMTP AND GEOS C PROGRAMS WOULD PERFORM THIS SUPERVISORY FUNCTION UPON TERMINATION OF THOSE PROGRAMS.

D. IN ADDITION TO THE FIELD SURVEYS UTILIZING THE DOPPLER EQUIPMENT, DMA HAS AUTHORIZED IAGS TO PROGRAM FOR THE COMPLETION OF ONCE-OVER AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY COVERAGE OF BOLIVIA, BASED ON THE WORKING ARRANGEMENT (PER REF A). UNDER THAT ARRANGEMENT, A RESIDENT-BASED PHOTO INSPECTOR IS ESSENTIAL TO ASSURE THAT THE PRODUCT CONTRACTED FOR MEETS TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS PRIOR TO U.S. ACCEPTANCE AND PAYMENT. THE RESIDENT-BASED TECHNICIAN (PHOTOGRAMMETRIST) ASSIGNED TO ASSIST THE GOB ON A DAY-TO-DAY BASIS IN THE TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF EXPLOITING THE AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY FOR MAPPING PURPOSES WILL ASSUME THE ROLE OF PHOTO INSPECTOR IN ADDITION TO HIS PRIMARY DUTIES.

4. DMA DOES NOT FEEL THAT TDY CONSULTATIONS CAN REPLACE ANY OF THE RESIDENT-BASED TECHNICAL POSITIONS DESCRIBED ABOVE DUE TO THE NATURE OF THE OPERATIONS. IN FACT, THE SCOPE OF MAGNITUDE OF THE PLANNED OPERATIONS IS SUCH THAT DMA ENVISONS THE NEED FOR ADDITIONAL PERIODIC TDY CONSULTATIONS FROM IAGS PANAMA. DMA HAS CONCURRED IN THE ELIMINATION OF THE NCO SUPPLY SERGEANT AT END FY 75. HOWEVER, THE LEVEL OF OPERATIONS DURING THE FY 76-80 TIME PERIOD WILL PLACE GREATER RESPONSIBILITIES AND WORKLOAD ON THE LOCAL SUPPLY AND MAINTENANCE ASSISTANT, AND DMA

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RECOMMENDS AGAINST ELIMINATING THAT POSITION.

5. DMA HAS CAREFULLY CONSIDERED THE EMBASSY'S SUGGESTION THAT THE PROJECT ENGINEER ASSUME CONCURRENTLY THE DUTIES OF PROJECT DIRECTOR. DMA IS GENERALLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THAT SUGGESTION AND IS, IN FACT, IMPLEMENTING THE CONCEPT IN FY 76 IN TWO OTHER SOUTH AMERICAN COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE CIVILIAN MAPPING AGENCIES. THE BOLIVIAN MAPPING AGENCY, HOWEVER, IS MILITARY, AND DMA HAS FOUND THAT GREATER RAPPORT IS ESTABLISHED IN SUCH A SITUATION BY ASSIGNING A MILITARY U.S. PROJECT DIRECTOR. IN ADDITION, DMA RECOMMENDS AGAINST HAVING THE PROJECT ENGINEER ASSUME THE DUTIES OF THE PROJECT DIRECTOR BECAUSE OF THE ALREADY INCREASED WORKLOAD PLACED ON HIM UNDER THE GEOS C PROGRAM.

6. IN SUMMARY, DMA BELIEVES THAT THE PLANNED MANNING LEVEL OF FOUR RESIDENT-BASED TECHNICAL U.S. PERSONNEL, INCLUDING THE PROJECT ENGINEER AND THE PHOTOGRAMMETRIST, AND A MILITARY PROJECT DIRECTOR DURING THE FY 76-80 TIME FRAME IS JUSTIFIED. AT THE END OF FY 80, DMA PLANS TO PHASE DOWN THE IAGS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM TO TWO RESIDENT-BASED TECHNICIANS, ONE MILITARY AND ONE LOCAL. DURING THE INTERIM, DMA WILL CLOSELY MONITOR IAGS OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS AND MANNING LEVELS. IF CONDITIONS JUSTIFY, OR REQUIREMENTS CHANGE, ADJUSTMENTS WILL BE MADE PRIOR TO FY 81.

7. DEPARTMENT REQUESTS FURTHER EMBASSY COMMENT ON REQUIRED IAGS MANNING LEVELS IN VIEW OF ABOVE DMA JUSTIFICATION. KISSINGER

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